

The National Dredging Team and Regional Dredging Teams

What is the National Dredging Team?

An interagency group established in 1995 to:

- Promote national and regional consistency on dredging issues.
- Provide a mechanism for conflict resolution and information exchange among Federal, State, and local agencies and stakeholders.

Who is on the National Dredging Team?

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Co-Chair
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineer – Co-Chair
- Maritime Administration
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Coast Guard
- NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service
- NOAA's National Ocean Service
- Other agency participants include U.S. Navy, U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Department of Agriculture

What is the National Dredging Team's Action Agenda?

Dredged Material Management: Action Agenda for the Next Decade (Action Agenda) presents recommendations for each of four primary subject areas. Recommendations resulted from a 2001 workshop sponsored by NDT and attended by 250 representatives from government, industry, environmental interests, contractors, and academia.

What are the four subject areas of the Action Agenda's recommendations?

- *Beneficial Use of Dredged Material* – e.g. establish national guidance on beneficial use authorities and processes.
- *Sediment Management* – e.g. identify key elements of sediment management and incorporate them into Local Planning Groups guidance as appropriate.
- *Emerging Issues* – e.g. develop an information clearinghouse for dredging issues.
- *Strengthening the Regional Dredging Teams* – e.g. develop charters and outreach plans for each Regional Dredging Team.

What are the Regional Dredging Teams?

Regional Dredging Teams are functioning in a number of regions in the U.S. with the intent of improving dredged material management by fostering communication and planning, providing a forum for issue resolution, and increasing public education and community involvement.

Where have Regional Dredging Teams been established?

RDTs (or an equivalent type of forum/mechanism) have been established in most geographic areas in the US including Great Lakes, Northeast, Southeast, Gulf of Mexico, Southern California, Northern California, Pacific Northwest, Alaska, and Hawaii. Reports on the success of RDTs are mixed, with some reporting excellent progress on dredging issues.